

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A printed circuit panel exposure machine comprising:
a first artwork support comprising a substantially rectangular frame and a transparent plate suitable for receiving said artwork, said plate being secured via its periphery to said frame;
a second artwork support ~~constituted by~~comprising a substantially rectangular frame and a transparent plate secured via its periphery to said frame and suitable for receiving said artwork, one of said supports being movable relative to the other, said panel being ~~designed to be placed~~placed between said supports;
means for providing sealing between said frames of said supports when said frames are pressed one against the other; and
means for establishing suction in the volume defined by said ~~frame~~artwork supports and, said sealing means, and ~~said support~~;
~~said machine being characterized in that it further comprises:~~
at least one deformable leaktight balloon disposed between said transparent plates around at least a portion of said panel;
a source of gas under pressure at a pressure greater than the pressure of said suction; and
at least one pipe for causing said at least one balloon to communicate with said source of pressure thus serving, when suction is established in said volume, to cause the periphery of said transparent plates to press against said balloon.
2. (Currently Amended) A machine according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that it includes~~including a plurality of leaktight deformable balloons surrounding said panel, each balloon being connected to said source of gas under pressure by a pipe, said balloons occupying the major fraction of the space extending between the periphery of said panel and the frames.

3. (Currently Amended) A machine according to claim 1 or claim 2, characterized in that it further comprises further comprising a plurality of mechanical spacers interposed between said frames and of said artwork supports.

4. (Currently Amended) A machine according to claim 3, characterized in that wherein said spacers are adjustable in thickness.

5. (Currently Amended) A machine according to any one of claims 1 to 4 claim 1, characterized in that wherein said at least one deformable leaktight balloon(s) is/are of horizontal dimensions much greater than its/their thickness.

6. (Currently Amended) A machine according to any one of claims 1 to 5 claim 1, characterized in that it includes including a plurality of sets of deformable leaktight balloons of dimensions adapted to the dimensions of panels to be exposed.

7. (New) A machine according to claim 2, further comprising a plurality of mechanical spacers interposed between said frames of said artwork supports.

8. (New) A machine according to claim 7, wherein said spacers are adjustable in thickness.

9. (New) A machine according to claim 2, including a plurality of sets of deformable leaktight balloons of dimensions adapted to the dimensions of panels to be exposed.